

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The foregoing amendments to the claims are of a formal nature, and do not add new matter. Claims 123-126, 129-131 and 135-138 were pending in this application and were rejected on various grounds. Claim 123 has been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. §102

Claim 123 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Birren *et al.* (March 26, 2000).

Without acquiescing to the propriety of this rejection, merely to expedite prosecution in this case, Applicants have canceled claim 123 and therefore, this rejection should be withdrawn.

The present application is believed to be in *prima facie* condition for allowance, and an early action to that effect is respectfully solicited.

Please charge any additional fees, including any fees for additional extension of time, or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 08-1641, referencing Attorney's Docket No. 39780-2730 P1C57).

Please direct any calls in connection with this application to the undersigned at the number provided below.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: December 9, 2004

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